



TESTIMONY OF
MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL
SUBMITTED TO THE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 11, 2014

SB 407, An Act Concerning A Hospital Quality of Care Initiative

Middlesex Hospital appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony concerning **SB 407, An Act Concerning Hospital Quality of Care Initiative**. We respectfully request your support for hospital efforts to collaborate with the Administration to redesign the Medicaid program.

Middlesex Hospital has always been committed to improving patient care and ensuring that every person receives safe, excellent care. At Middlesex, we are constantly working to identify opportunities for improving the quality and safety of the care we provide as well as to make the experience of the patient and their family the best possible. One example of this is our High Reliability Transformation in which we are bringing the principles that have helped make certain industries remarkably safe for long periods of time (such as commercial aviation, nuclear power, and the US Nuclear Navy, to name a few) to Middlesex Hospital, as part of a state wide initiative being led by CHA. This includes making patient safety our absolute number one focus, teaching habits and tools that improve individual performance, communication, and team work to all of our employees and medical staff, increasing transparency to be better able to find, understand and respond to opportunities for improvement, and system change management techniques to improve the function of our systems to decrease the likelihood of errors occurring or reaching the patient. In addition we are teaching staff the principles of LEAN methodology to enhance our process improvement capabilities. Specific quality and safety initiatives have included successful efforts to reduce readmissions, catheter associated urinary tract infections, and surgical site infections, as well as system improvements to ensure best evidence based practices are in place for patients with many different diagnoses, such as heart attacks, strokes, pneumonia and so on. Beyond these, there are numerous other initiatives all centered on improving patient safety, providing the highest quality of care and the best experience possible to every patient every time, too numerous to list here.

Hospitals continue to work with the Administration to shape Medicaid system reform. We are pursuing a value-based proposal that would reward hospitals for achieving quality objectives and investing in infrastructure to make care more effective, as well as by participating in programs to improve outcomes and share data.

Connecticut hospitals are driving toward the healthcare reform objective of improving care quality and accountability, and the shift from payment for the volume of services provided to payment for value – focusing on the outcomes and quality of care people receive. Investing in better care for the people of Connecticut is a good investment for the state.

CHA's plan would improve people's lives. We are ready to put the plan in place effective July 1, 2014. Please vote to modify the budget to include the investment dollars necessary to make it happen.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Vincent Capece, Jr.'.

Vincent G. Capece, Jr.
President and CEO